

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mayor Kovach read the following statement: “Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided, indicating the time and place of the meeting and the proposed agenda, which notice was posted, made available to newspapers, and filed with the Clerk of the Town of Clinton in accordance with Section 3(d) of Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975.”

Mayor Kovach welcomed the public to the public meeting and explained how the meeting will be run by reading the following statement :

NJSA 10:4-8(b) authorizes municipalities to conduct public meetings through use of streaming services and other online meeting platforms. Recently adopted P.L. 2020, c.11 amends OPMA to clarify that in times of emergency public bodies may vote, accept public comment and cause a meeting to be open to the public via electronic means.

The Town of Clinton is a public meeting as well as using ZOOM Video Meetings. Please be aware that this meeting is being recorded for the public record.

Please use the chat feature in ZOOM to indicate that you wish to be recognized for a comment or a question. You must provide your name and address to be recognized. You can also type in your questions. Feel free going forward to email councilmeeting@clintonnj.gov with any questions or concerns between meetings.

Please feel free to reach out with a note at jkovach@clintonnj.gov anytime!

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Perloff seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to approve the minutes of January 12, 2022. as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session minutes for January 12, 2022 will be tabled to the next council meeting February 9, 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

1. Budget meetings scheduled for Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 6PM hybrid; Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6PM possibly virtual and Tuesday, March 15 at 6PM if needed – hybrid.
2. An elected officials training session will be held Saturday, March 19. Attornies Tara St. Angelo and Leslie Parikh will preside.
3. February council meetings will be held virtually, March meetings hybrid.

4. Two resignations have been received. Kevin Fleming, Construction Official and Electrical Subcode Official for 15 years will resign as of February 8, 2022 and Dennis Allen, temporary Fire Sub-Code official and inspector as of January 28, 2022. A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Dineen to accept the resignations with regrets,

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

5. Citizen involvement form received from Suzanne Pisano expressing interest for the Communications Committee. Ms. Pisano was appointed to the Communications Committee.
6. Mayor Kovach announced there will be a friendly inaugural summer Olympics competition with Union Township officials this summer. Location and date to be determined!

RESOLUTION #45-22 – BYOB – YULETIDE BONFIRE

The resolution permits the consumption of alcoholic beverages at Hunts Mill Park during the Yuletide Bonfire Winter Festival to be held January 29, 2022, a snow date has been added to the resolution February 12, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Mr. Bruno to accept the resolution with the amended dates.

RESOLUTION # 45-22

TO ALLOW FOR BYO CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AT TOWN BONFIRE

WHEREAS, the code of the Town of Clinton, Chapter 32, Section 7, prohibits consumption of alcoholic beverages in, on, or upon any public street, or land owned or occupied by any federal, state, county, or municipal government, or as further explained in the Section 32-7 A through D; and

WHEREAS, alcoholic beverages may be consumed at occasions or events held by bona fide nonprofit organizations or other groups if specifically permitted by resolution of the Mayor and Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton that BYO (Bring Your Own) consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be permitted at the Hunts Mill Park during the Town of Clinton Yuletide Bonfire Winter Festival to be held January 29, 2022 beginning at 6:00 pm. A snow date has been added in case of inclement weather, Saturday, February 12, 2022.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #46-22 – LARGE WATER RESERVATION

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to adopt Resolution #46-22 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 46-22

**RESOLUTION APPROVING WATER CAPACITY RESERVATION
APPLICATION # L21-09**

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2015, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton adopted Ordinance 15-1, which amended Chapter 142 of the General Ordinances of the Town of Clinton by creating procedures for applying for and receiving approval for water reservations; and

WHEREAS, the Town has received Water Reservation Application # L21-09, dated December 16, 2021, submitted in the name of Beta Land Management, LLC/The Clinton House, (Town of Clinton, Block 6, Lot 27, Tax Map Page 2); and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2022, the Town's Water Consulting Engineer, Suburban Consulting Engineers, informed the Town of Clinton Water Committee of their recommendation of approval of the afore-mentioned application which proposes improvements to the existing property to include a 180 additional seats to the existing restaurant; and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2022, the Town's Water Committee held their monthly meeting in which they have reviewed the application; and

WHEREAS, as the Town's Water Committee is satisfied with the information outlined by Suburban Consulting Engineers, the application is deemed complete, to which they have granted a final approval and have imposed the conditions listed in Suburban Consulting Engineers January 14, 2022 letter.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter 142, Section 1, Sub-section J(3) of the Town's Ordinances, the Mayor and Council hereby approves Water Reservation Application # L21-09 in the amount of 3,600 GPD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be provided to the Applicant, Suburban Consulting Engineers, and the Town of Clinton Superintendent of Water.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #47-22 – LARGE WATER RESERVATION

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adopt Resolution #47-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 47-22
RESOLUTION APPROVING WATER CAPACITY RESERVATION
APPLICATION # L21-08**

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2015, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton adopted Ordinance 15-1, which amended Chapter 142 of the General Ordinances of the Town of Clinton by creating procedures for applying for and receiving approval for water reservations; and

WHEREAS, the Town has received Water Reservation Application # L21-08, dated October 18, 2021, submitted in the name of CRC Communities at Headley Farm Estate (Township of Clinton, Block 46, Lots 33 & 33.01, Tax Map Page 9) for "Phase 1 of their proposed project; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2022, the Town's Water Consulting Engineer, Suburban Consulting Engineers, informed the Town of Clinton Water Committee of their recommendation of approval of the afore-mentioned application which proposes Phase 1 development of 130 apartments, including 20 affordable housing units in this inclusionary development project; and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2022, the Town's Water Committee held their monthly meeting in which they have reviewed the application; and

WHEREAS, as the Town's Water Committee is satisfied with the information outlined by Suburban Consulting Engineers, the application is deemed complete;

WHEREAS, Suburban Consulting Engineers noted a mathematical error in the application; however, the Water Committee recommended the application be approved subject to the conditions listed in Suburban

Consulting Engineers January 14, 2022 letter and the applicant submitting a revised application correcting the error; and

WHEREAS, the applicant submitted a revised application correcting the mathematical error on January 19, 2022, which was reviewed and accepted by Suburban Consulting Engineers; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 6, 2021, counsel for the Township of Clinton requested that this allocation be transferred to the Township to be held in trust for allocation consistent with the Township's affordable housing plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter 142, Section 1, Sub-section J(3) of the Town's Ordinances, the Mayor and Council hereby approves Water Reservation Application # L21-08 in the amount of 19,670 GPD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the allocation shall be held in trust by the Township of Clinton to be distributed in accordance with the Township's affordable housing plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be provided to the Applicant, Suburban Consulting Engineers, and the Town of Clinton Superintendent of Water.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #48-22 – INSPECTORS

A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adopt Resolution #48-22 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 48-22

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton requires the hiring of a Construction Official, Building Inspector, Fire Subcode/Inspector, and an Electrical Subcode/Inspector, and;

WHEREAS, the following are recommended to fill the positions:

Peter Buchanan – Electrical Subcode/Inspector - \$7,000.00/Year
Tracy Wenskowski – Fire Subcode/Inspector - \$5,000.00/Year
Dan Niro – Construction Official - \$9,000.00/Year
Building Inspector - \$3,000.00/Year

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hire Peter Buchanan, Tracy Wenskowski and Dan Niro to fill the above openings in the Town of Clinton.

ROLL CALL: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

REPORTS OF COUNCIL

Councilman Traphagen

Historic Commission – named Rosemarie Platt as Chair and newly appointed member, Holly Lione as Vice Chair.

Historic façade grant program applications will go live March 1, 2022.

Welcome to the newest business on Main Street, Curious Plantaholic! Stop in and help welcome them!

Councilwoman Johnson

Recreation – Summer registration program is open, before and after care programs available as well. Cut off is February 10, 2022. Many counselor positions available including the director's position!

Councilman Bruno

Board of Health – Free Rabies Clinic was held Saturday, January 22, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the municipal barn. 258 pets were given shots and the process went smoothly! Patrons stayed in their cars and Dr. Phil Roerig, assisted by his wife, Dr. Laura Roerig, were phenomenal! Thank you to Business Administrator Phelan for devising an on-line pre-registration form and to all the volunteers who helped out on that frigid morning!

Councilman Bruno has been reaching out to different agencies to set up a COVID testing site in Town and has provided information and a proposal from Urgent Care to Chief Kubinak and Council for review. Hope to report back at the next meeting.

Shade Tree will be applying for Community Tree Recovery program to replace many of the trees lost due to Hurricane Sandy and other insect species. Municipalities can request up to 1,000 seedlings and Mr. Bruno will consult with the Shade Tree Commission to determine which type of trees to request. Applications must be applied for by February 17, 2022.

Denise Birmingham has expressed an interest in the Commission as well as Kim Stentz. Ms. Stentz was appointed to the commission at re-organization in January and the Commission will discuss reorganizing the membership numbers to accommodate additional members.

School Board – the unofficial results from the special school election for the rehabilitation of the playground held yesterday, January 25, 2022 are YES – 298; NO – 149; 3 unknown?!

Councilwoman Dineen

Water Committee – last July the State of New Jersey imposed a mandate to municipalities to eliminate LEAD service lines within 10 years. Good news! The Town of Clinton does not have any LEAD lines. Bad news is that the State also defines lead pipes as galvanized pipes and will need to be replaced. A minimum of 7% of the pipes will be replaced every year. Suburban Consulting will submit a service inventory to the State by July 22, 2022. There is a link on the Town website, clintonnj.gov under public works listed under the Government tab, left side where you will find a 64 page explanation of the process. Notifications will be going to all Town of Clinton water customers by February 22, 2022

Councilman Perloff

Economic Development Committee – Councilman Humphrey is Acting Chair and thank you to member Elizabeth Halpin for retrieving a ton of information and for providing the report as to revitalizing Main Street and the sustainability report. The Committee is reaching out to the County and to other communities to discuss how they promote their downtown districts.

Newsletter Committee – submissions have been received from the Recreation Committee, the High School and the PTO from Clinton Public. Reminders to everyone that the deadline is tomorrow, January 27, 2022.

Clinton Guild – Sweetheart Week is the second week of February, 7-14, 2022.

Recreation Committee There are several open items of the Committee and the Mayor will be invited to attend to discuss re-alignment, the structure of the committee, fund raising, how the committee is funded and establishing by laws. Interest to join the committee has been made by Liz Hedden and everyone who knows her knows she will be a great addition! A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Mr. Bruno to appoint Liz Hedden to the committee pending the submission of her Citizen Involvement Form.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Fun activities are being planned for Spring! Kristina Tuxhorn suggested an egg hunt during the Easter holiday season. Ms. Johnson suggested the committee talk with the Clinton Guild as they have held egg hunts in the past and suggested collaborating with them.

The Yuletide Bonfire may be postponed until February 12 due to weather predictions of snow and high winds. Once again the matter of insurance coverage is an issue. Mayor Kovach explained past issues and explained that vendors do have problems getting umbrella coverage. Going forward, work with the non profits for the year and join together with other non profits. The not for profit status was established at the end of 2021. We have waived the umbrella policy in years past. Let's look at cost for a one year policy going forward.

Mr. Humphrey asked what has taken place in the past? Councilman Perloff said a ballpark cost was provided to the vendor and Rec Committee did speak with insurance providers in Town and researched the potential of the umbrella policy. Mr. Humphrey asked when was the agreement decided with this vendor? A report should be provided to council as to the vendors and the discussions with committees for all information regarding insurance and protection to the town. Mr. Perloff said this process needs to be addressed. Councilwoman Johnson echoed Mr. Humphrey's suggestions.

Councilman Perloff stated the following: "I request a motion to accept the insurance provided "as presented", by the Horse and Carriage Vendor (hereafter "Kafka Farms" or "the Vendor") for the Town of Clinton Yuletide Winter Festival Bonfire (hereafter "Bonfire") being held on Saturday January 29th, 2022 or subsequent snow date of February 12th, 2022, and waive any additional Tier A Category requirement as set forth in the Tiered Town of Clinton Insurance Requirements and published on July 21, 2020." Motion made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Mr. Bruno, to accept as presented.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Councilman Humphrey

The Volunteer Fair held Monday, January 17, 2022 at the Community was well attended in spite of the weather and COVID concerns. 45 people attended and many sign ups to assorted committees were obtained, especially the Platinum Club and the Rescue Squad.

Communications Committee – a new member has joined the group, appointed earlier this evening, Suzanne Pisano. Committee will meet again February 2, 2022.

Environmental Commission meeting tomorrow night, January 27.

Economic Development Commission will keep the meeting schedule to the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. New folks are welcome!

Kathy Olsen, CFO

Ms. Olsen reported that the 300 long necklace glow sticks have been received.

Attorney St. Angelo

Attorney St. Angelo said the agreement with Clinton Township Sewerage Authority is nearing completion!

STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to approve the standby and overtime attached to these minutes for the period of January 7 through January 20, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Bruno seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Dineen,, seconded by Mr. Bruno to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Janice Kovach, Mayor